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MEDICAL EDUCATION IN BELARUS FOR INTERNATIONAL STUDENTS
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Nowadays more and more students from all over the world choose medicine as their future profession. Belarus is one of the countries which provides such opportunity. There are four medical universities in Belarus. One of the most advanced and popular among international students is Belarusian State Medical University (BSMU).

On September 1, 1964 the Medical Faculty for International Students was opened. More than 1700 international citizens from more than 50 countries are currently studying here. The Medical Faculty for International Students has trained more than 3,000 professionals in such specialties as «General Medicine», «Dentistry», «Pediatrics», «Preventive Medicine» and «Pharmacy».

Many graduates of this faculty became outstanding and well-known specialists. We have analyzed the data and identified the country that sent the greatest number of students to study and receive a medical specialty in Belarus in 2014 – 2019. More than 500 students from Turkmenistan study at BSMU (it is about 30% of the total number of international students).

Some international students of the first and second years were interviewed on their opinion about studying at BSMU. It was a group of 10 students from different countries, such as India, the Lebanon and Turkmenistan. The most popular answer about the advantages is the opportunity to study Human Anatomy and work with natural and wet mounts in the dissecting room from the first year. In the students' opinion, it makes the preparation for their lessons easier. Among the disadvantages not educational but such natural factors as climate and weather were mentioned by Indian students.

More than 70 professors, associate professors and teachers deliver lectures and conduct practical classes, seminars and laboratory works. The pedagogical staff was asked questions about difficulties that both teachers and international students face in the educational process. According to the answers, Russian-speaking students adapt faster to studies in our country than English-speaking students do. We also compared the curriculum in General Medicine and facilities of medical education at BSMU for Belarusian and international students. They turned out to be equal despite the language of instruction.

All students that we have interviewed stated that Belarusian State Medical University was a good place to study medicine, and they didn't regret about their having entered BSMU. The cost of studies and life in Belarus as well as the country's geographical position are the factors that attract international students to Belarus. Their opinion coincides with opinions of recruiting and educational consulting companies that Belarus is a peaceful country where young people receive their experience of independent life, become more self-reliant and orderly.